



## New Look *Yn Chruinnacht* for 2007



January 11 saw a turning point in the history of Yn Chruinnacht Festival. A public meeting was held at Ramsey Town Hall to discuss the fate of the festival for 2007, 30 years since the one off event that was to become the precursor to Yn Chruinnacht, Shennaghys '77. It had become apparent to the committee that, due to dwindling numbers on the committee, changes in the Manx calendar, the development of Ramsey and the increase in demand for Manx music and dance, that the festival was unable to continue in its present guise.

The committee put together four options for discussion at the meeting:

- Continue with a festival in Ramsey, in a marquee but with a substantial number of new volunteers to organise the festival.
- Do not have a festival at all and allow the other festivals and events to represent Manx culture at InterCeltic celebrations.
- Create a new festival, not necessarily in Ramsey, with professional musicians/dancers, over a shorter period of time to fill the gaps left by other events.
- A new option not yet thought of by the committee.

Happily, the second option was immediately disregarded and, after two hours discussion, a mixture of options one and three was settled on. With seven new volunteer committee members, it was decided to have a shorter festival in an alternative venue with a view to return to Ramsey after a period of research and once the schedule for the development of Ramsey had been finalised.

After their first meeting last week the new committee were able to decide on a basic structure for the framework that hopefully fulfils all of the decisions made at the public meeting and will result in a vibrant and forward looking festival with a long and prosperous future ahead of it.

2007, then, will see a change of dates and venue. Based in Peel and centring on Peel Centenary Centre the festival will run from Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a week earlier than usual, but will avoid clashing with 'Rock the Rock'. Beginning with evening adult music, song and recitation competitions, the festival will then centre around three large concerts with professional bands representing the six Celtic countries. These will be programmed alongside workshops, language events, a church service, sessions, outdoor dance displays and will end with a Manx ceili for everyone. Events will also take place in Ramsey with the ever popular displays in the Mooragh Park and St. Paul's Church concert maintaining a major position within the programme. The festival will take place alongside Peel Traditional Boat Weekend and it is hoped that the two events will complement one another to give Peel an overall festival atmosphere for the weekend. The more official side of the festival which includes the reception for delegations from other festivals and the Ian O'Leary lecture will be organised in conjunction with language organisations and events.

While the committee are aware that it is regrettable that the festival needs to move from Ramsey, it was very apparent at the public meeting that times had changed enough that it was necessary to move the festival to where the venues and accommodation would be more accessible and reliable. This is by no means a permanent move away from Ramsey. However, it does now free the festival to structure itself around the most suitable venues and to move to serve the Island as a whole.

Yn Chruinnacht Ghennal 2007, DanceMann 2008 and the massively valuable school workshops as supported by the Department of Education will continue as usual.

If you have any questions, comments, ideas or would like any information on Yn Chruinnacht please do not hesitate to contact us at [enquiries@ynchruinnacht.com](mailto:enquiries@ynchruinnacht.com).

# BULLETIN BOARD

## Cwlwm Celtaidd

Cwlwm Celtaidd InterCeltic Festival of Wales will be taking place for the 6<sup>th</sup> year running on 2 to 4 March, Trecco Bay, Porthcawl. See [www.cwlwmceltaidd.com](http://www.cwlwmceltaidd.com) for more info.

## MannKind DVD – Featuring Manx Music

This production focuses on Manx events during 2006, including footage of this years Yn Chruinnaght (music at Mooragh Park and the Perree Bane Manx Dance workshop in the marquee). There is also footage of the acoustic concert at Lonan Church for Shennaghys Jui, and bands at the Trafalgar.

This new DVD is available now in Pickwicks stores, WHS Smith and the Lexicon Bookshop.

## Music Boxes

Limited edition handmade music boxes playing Manx tunes (Ellan Vannin, Arrane Gelby and Hush Little Darling) are available online from [manxbox.com](http://manxbox.com) or call 497686.

## Tholtan's MySpace

The eponymous Manx band the Tholtan Builders have a new MySpace site including recordings of some of their most popular songs. Please check it out and become their friends. [www.myspace.com/thetholtanbuilders](http://www.myspace.com/thetholtanbuilders)

MS 08979.  
Folder: Music (Cushag)

## Manx (Traditional)

Andante

*p*

*mf*

(Taken down from the singing of Mr. Thos. Quane on Feb 19 1911)

## Reeling Stones

New up and coming Manx Band, the Reeling Stones, wowed audiences in Sulby on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January with an amazingly mature, polished and eclectic performance of music and song. With a range of repertoire from Christy Moore, Led Zeppelin and Manx Youth Orchestra arrangements the band played an impressive hour and a half set to an appreciative group of musicians and passers by alike. The group, all students of QEII Highschool, Peel, had organised the event themselves and hope to repeat it on a monthly basis. With vocals, fiddles, kit, bodhran, bouzouki, guitar, mandolin and whistle between five musicians these multi-instrumentalists were able to vary the texture, style and atmosphere of their sets throughout the evening to keep the momentum going. Their enthusiasm and energy inspired much of the audience and a good night was had by all.



The gig was then followed by a session until the small hours. Musicians came from far and wide to take part (some even hotting footing it from other sessions) and this proved an opportunity for the band to carry in playing but to also pick up tips and inspiration from other musicians. Their next gig will be on 16<sup>th</sup> February starting at 8:30pm and will again be followed by a session. This even will be well worth a look and we hope to see great things from the Reeling Stones in the future..



## RBV donation to Manx Choir

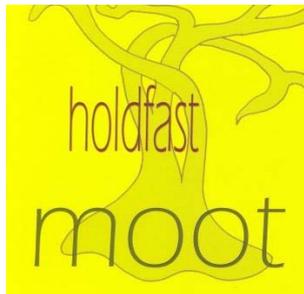
C.C. are delighted that following the recent MHF presentation of the prestigious cultural award RBV to Dollin Kelly, Dollin has kindly donated £500 of that award to the choir. We are very grateful to both Dollin and the MHF for this.

Dollin is a long-standing friend and supporter of CC and we will be using the money towards the production of a new CD, to come out some time this year. Some people may not know that the words of the Christams carol, 'Arrane ny Voidyn Moirrey', a carol performed and recorded by both CC and CT were actually written by Dollin's father, the great Manx cultural activist, H. P. Kelly. We would like to congratulate Dollin on receiving RBV and looking forward to sharing a stage with him again in the future.

Annie Kissack.

**SESSIONS: TUES, 9PM IRISH IN TRAFF, DOUGLAS,  
THURS. 9PM SINGING IN THE MITRE, RAMSEY,  
FRI, 8PM TYNWALD INN, ST. JOHN'S, FRI, 9PM IRISH IN THE MITRE, RAMSEY,  
SAT, 9PM THE WHITE HOUSE, PEEL**

# Moot on the Airwaves



Moot's most recent album 'Holdfast' has been enjoying major airtime and increased sales from downloads since its release late last year. The second album from Manx music's more alternative end of the market has recently been accepted onto the TuneTribe website where individual tracks

or the entire album can be purchased and downloaded. At a time when the popular charts now take downloads into account and not just physical sales, we could see Manx music now making its way into mainstream music. Moot's album can be found on TuneTribe at the following url: [http://www.tunetribe.com/Album?album\\_id=690662](http://www.tunetribe.com/Album?album_id=690662)

Tracks from the album have also been broadcast on the airwaves by a number of shows. Gieneveve Tudor has become quite a fan, playing a couple of tracks on more than one occasion on BBC Radio Shropshire accompanied by some very complimentary comments. Andy Kershaw, ever the friend of Manx music has also played Moot on his BBC Radio3 World Music show, and they could also be heard on BBC Radio Wales' Celtic Heartbeat show.

# Bree Change of Venue

Due to unforeseen circumstances the regular Bree session will be testing out a new venue this month. Taking place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February the session will run half an hour later than usual – starting at 4:30pm and finishing at 6:30pm – and will take place in Java Lounge, the coffee shop above Island Books in Strand Street Douglas.

As a supporter of live and Manx music – many of you will have attended King Chiauullee's album launch held there – the management of Java are very excited at this opportunity. It is hoped that the time chosen will allow young musicians (and the not so young!) to pop in for a tune once they have finished shopping in Douglas and still make it home in time for a full Saturday evening. For more information email [mhfmusic@mhf.org.im](mailto:mhfmusic@mhf.org.im) or [manxmusicsspecialist@mhf.org.im](mailto:manxmusicsspecialist@mhf.org.im).

# Shennaghys Jiu 2007



Shennaghys Jiu will be celebrating its 10th year in style with a number of old friends. A bumper line up includes Anton Davila and group 'Aran', Calum Stewart and Aidan O'Kane hot from the finals of Scotland's Young Traditional Musician of the year and the return of some members of 'Front Line' fiddle group from Fochabers who were some of the first visitors to the festival.

Starting on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March and finishing on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April and including ceillis, concerts and much more this promises to be the best Shennaghys Jiu yet. Full details will be published in next month's edition of KVJ or see [www.shennaghys.org](http://www.shennaghys.org) for more info.

# Rink

## Walter Clarke

Kiaull Manninagh Jiu would like to take this opportunity to mark the passing of Walter Clarke late last month. Walter was noted for a vast number of contributions to Manx language and culture. Here he is pictured as part of a dance team formed for the Festival of Britain in 1951. He shall be sorely missed.



# CALENDAR - FEB 2007

## BREE Session at Java

**10 February, 4:30pm, Java Lounge Café, Douglas.**  
Email [manxmusicsspecialist@mhf.org.im](mailto:manxmusicsspecialist@mhf.org.im) for more information.

## Reeling Stones @ Sulby Glen Hotel

**16 February, 8:30pm, Sulby Glen Hotel, Sulby.** To be followed by a session so please bring instruments.

## King Chiauullee @ Cwlwm Celtaidd

**2 March, Porthcawl, South Wales.** See [www.cwlwmceltaidd.com](http://www.cwlwmceltaidd.com) for more information.



**manx heritage foundation**  
**undinys eiraght vannin**

For more information on Manx music and dance contact:

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